

April 11, 1853.

JOHN M. MITCHELL, Esq., in the Chair.

The following Gentleman was elected a Fellow of the Society:—

ALLAN MACPHERSON, Esq., younger of Blairgowrie.

I.

A Letter was read from Lieut. A. N. SCOTT, Madras Artillery, Cor. Mem. S.A. Scot., inclosing an Ivory Ornament, found at Nineveh in 1851.

To the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you, that by to-day's post I have forwarded to your address a small piece of ivory from Nineveh, which, perhaps, will be an interesting addition to the Museum.

The relic was given to me in 1851 by the chaplain at Aden, who had just returned from the ruins, so it is *authentic*.

I see similar pieces in the British Museum, and they are labelled "Ivory Ornaments, Nimroud, NW. Palace." I have the honour to be your most obedient Servant,

A. N. SCOTT.

LONDON, 2 ALDERMAN'S WALK, NEW BROAD ST.,

23d March 1853.

The Ivory Ornament consists of a portion of a balustrade of *two Assyrian columns*, being part of an Ivory panel similar in character to those figured in Plate LXXXVIII., Nos. 3. 3. of "*The Monuments of Nineveh*," by A. H. Layard, Esq.

II.

PETITION FROM THE INHABITANTS OF SOUTH LEITH, ADDRESSED TO GENERAL MONK, PRAYING HIM TO RESTORE TO THEM THE USE OF THE PARISH CHURCH, *CIRCA* 1655; ILLUSTRATED WITH A SERIES OF EXTRACTS FROM THE KIRK-SESSION RECORDS OF THAT PARISH. BY DAVID LAING, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

After the battle of Dunbar, in September 1650, it is well known that Cromwell took possession of Leith, and the town being strongly fortified, and a cita-

del erected, it continued during the Commonwealth to be one of his chief military garrisons in Scotland, the others being Glasgow, Ayr, Inverness, and the castle of Inverlochy. The circumstance of the Parish Church of South Leith being used by his soldiers for secular purposes is partially noticed in various works, and in particular, in Kincaid's History of Edinburgh, 1787; in Campbell's History of Leith, 1827; in Dr Wilson's Memorials of Edinburgh; and still more recently in Dr D. H. Robertson's Antiquities and Sculptured Stones of Leith, 1851.

The following Petition of the inhabitants addressed to General Monk, to have their church restored to its proper use, has no date, but may be referred to the year 1655 or 1656. It was lately discovered by Mr T. Thomson, one of our members, among the papers of Mr Boswell, formerly of the Lyon Office; and considering it to be a curious document, I had it transcribed for the Society's Topographical Collections.

TO THE REIGHT HON^{BLE} GENERALL MONCK

Commander in Cheife of all the fforges in Scotland

The humble Petitione of the Inhabitants of the parochie of South Leith

SHEWETH

That yo^r petitioners in obedience to ane ordour from Yo^r hon^r to our deputie governour Leiuetenant Collonel Timothie Wilks, did delyver to him the kye of our church doore and haith ever since had our meitting for the worshippe and service of God in the oppine feilds, which by the vnconstancie of the weather haith verie much disturbed the excerceise, befys many aged and infirme people can not goe foe farre, and such as have young children in there families and can not come to church befor noone, are now debared frome Efternoons Sermons, and many take occasion to goe astray through the feilds to the great dishonour of God and greife of the godlie.

The grounds moueing Your Honour to emite this ordour as wee humblie conueae was Mr John Hogge his remembring the King in his prayers, as some would alledge, as alsoe the great resort of people to heare him. For satisfaccione, Mr John Hogge doeth not at all mentione the nam of the King, nather intends to doe it in tym coming. And wee propofed a way to our Governour, which will hinder any to com to our meitting, but such as are of the congregacione; by sufferring none to enter into the garifone vpon the Lords day but such as haith a warrand frome the Governour. And we are now making a diligent searck through the towne, taking vp the nams of all such as are leatlle come into the Towne, and haith not the Governour his Licence, whose names wee

are to gieue vp to the Governour, that he may dispoſe of them at his pleaſour. Befyds, wee are willing to doe any other thing ſhall be requyred for our peaceable leaveing, to gieue yo^r Hon^r and the Governour content.

Which being conſidered wee hope yo^r Hon^r will be pleaſed to grant our deſyre and to reſtore us to our former Libertie to meit in our church and wee (as in dentie) ſhall ever pray.

JA : RIDDELL

J STEVINSONE

JAMES KYLL

JOHNE GRAY

MAURICE TRENT

THOMAS LITCHFEILD

JOHN YOUNG

WILL. MURREY

ROBERT TAILZOUR

ROBERT DEWER

ROBERT BEDFORD

H. BROUN

JAMES THOMSONE

JAMES SEATONE

HENRY BELL

ALEXANDER DOWNY Younger

JOHN WILKIE

WILLIAM RAMSAY

J MACKON

G. LAWTIE

RO. BRUCE

THO. MILL

M^r DA. ALDINSTOUNE

JAMES CARSE

JA : CRAWFURD.

In some of the works above mentioned, a few extracts relating to this period have been quoted from the Kirk-Session Records of South Leith. With the view of ascertaining the precise date of the Petition, I obtained from the Rev. Dr Stevenson, V.P., the First Minister of the parish, the use of the Kirk-Session Records of that time, and it appears that the parishioners of South Leith had been put to great personal inconvenience in attending upon Divine worship, in consequence of being deprived of their church for a period of nearly six years. I have extracted from the Register the several entries which bear reference to the general affairs of the South Leith congregation during Cromwell's administration, and consider them worthy of the notice of the Society, as they possess more than a mere local interest. The minutes prove that the Church of St Mary's, or the Parish Church of South Leith, had been converted by the English garrison, not, according to tradition, into a stable for their horses, but into a magazine or store-house for ammunition, until the new citadel in North Leith was completed. Various entries in the Register (which I have not copied) containing directions for "building" or erecting seats or pews, in particular parts of the church, for the chief heritors and the different incorporations of the town, lead to the conclusion that the interior of the Church had been treated with very little reverence.

SOUTH LEITH.

Register,
1643-1660.
p. 521.

There was no Sessio[n] holdine from the 7 of Julie 1650 untill the 26 of December 1651, be reasone of the great troubles and warre betwixt Scotland and England. The Scots Armie lying in leigour in Leith and about it; and efter the defeat at Dumber, the Ministers and most part of all the honest people fled out the Town for fear of the enemie.

23 November 1651.

P. 521.

The which day was the first day that Mr John Weir our pastor (immediately efter his returning home) did conveene the scattered Congregatione of South Leith together (being the Lords day) and preached to them in the Caitehall at the foot of the Cannongaite.

11 April 1652.

P. 524.

The which day (being the Lord's day) Mr George Lesly did preach (being defyred be the Presbyterie) and efter sermon did mak intimations to the Congregatione of South Leith that Mr John Weir was to be transported from the South Church of Leith and Restalrig unto the Church of Borthwick, &c.

23 May 1652.

Ib.

It is thought expedient that the Presbyterie and Sessio[n]e sould represent to My Lord Balmerinoch the distressed conditione of our kirk and people for feting of a Minister there for the scattered congregatione. Also, that Mr David Aldinfoune thare Clerk sould constantlie attend the Presbyterie every Presbyterie day to have ane to preach to the said scattered congregatione every Lords day till it fall please God to setle there ane actual Minister.

28 November 1652.

P. 526.

The which day (etter incalling upon God) there was a meitting of the Sessio[n]e and neighbours of the whole parioch of South Leith and Restalrig, efter the efternoones fermone (being appoynted be the Presbyterie) and Mr George Lesly did moderat at the desyr of the Presbyterie, who did intimat to the said meitting That it was the will of the Presbyterie to signifie unto them, That there sould be ane established Minister (for the interim) at Restalrig in the Landwart part of the parioch till it fall please God to let them have the South Church of Leith agane as formerly (which is now in the power of the Inglishe,) and that it sould be no wayes prejudiciall to the Towne of Leith whenever it shall be in its owne capacitie for establishing of a ministerie there as it was in former tymes.

The neighbours of Leith rendered the Presbyterie many thankses for the cair they had of them, &c.

P. 527.

P. 528.

19th January 1653.

[A formall call agreed upon, to call Mr John Hog from the Church of the Canon-gait to the Church of South Leith and Refsalrig.]

P. 533.

At Refsalrig the 28 of Julie 1653.

The which day Mr Robert Lourie preached at Refsalrig (being the ordinar place of meitting at fermes for the tyme) and admitted Mr John Hogg to be our Minister at the South kirk of Leith and Refsalrig, and was receavit be the Sessione and neighbours; and efter fermion the Presbyterie sat at Refsalrig at the Presbyteriall meitting, &c.

Ib.

21 August 1653.

The which day (after incalling upon God) the Sessione and some of the neighbours mett (Mr John Hog moderator) who did speik and confidder of the estait and affairs of our Church, but no thing was concludid upon till further

P. 544.

15 June 1654.

The said day, These of the Sessione within the Towne of Leith did all unanimously conclude that the week dayes fermone sould be within the Towne of Leith in tymes coming quhair it aught and sould bee, feing libertie is granted thairto. But Sir Hary Nisbit and William Purves gentlemen heritors within the barrony of Refsalrig for themselves and in name of the rest of the heritours and those of the Sessien within the said barrony did give in a protestation in the contrair, quhair of the tenor follows:

The protestation is signed by JOHN LORD COWPER.

SIR HARY NISBIT.

WILLIAM PURVES.

[It is followed by a "contrar protestation, by James Stevinsoun our Church Thesaurer," in name and behalf of the whole Session—and also by all the elders, deacons, and inhabitants within the town of Leith.]

P. 548.

Lykewayes our Reverend pastor Mr John Hogg did protest that his going into Leith to preach aither week day or Lords day sould in no wayes be præjudicial to him in any part of his stipend, gleib, manse, or any uther benefice pertaining to the Personage of Refsalrig, nather to be præjudicial to his succeffours in any poynt. And declared that he is most willing to preach at Leith becaus it is the ordinar place appoynted quhar the whole parochiners of South Leith and Refsalrig haith these many years, yea almost these hundreth yeares, mett to the publick worshipec of God.

Ib.

22 of June 1654.

The which day Mr John Hogg did preach at Leith which was the first

day of preaching there since the 3 of September 1650; but there was no Session, and the preaching was in the Tolbuith.

17 August 1654.

P. 551.

The which day, it was condescendit unanimously by all those of the Session within the Towne of Leith (but not by those of the landwart part of the paroch) That Mr John Hog our pastor would preach heir in Leith in the New Hospital upon the next Lords day, seing libertie is granted by those who hath the power in their hands, leaft (if he doe not preach and tak present possessione) he be not permitted efterward. But Mr John Hogg our pastor earnestlie desyred that the Session might continue for a day till the Presbyteries advyce might be sought therin. But the Session being instant with him moved him to condescend to preach here in the New Hospital the next Lord's day afternoon, provyding he and the people be suffered to come in betwixt sermones to the Towne: Quher-upon the Session promised to be at the Presbyterie the next Wedensday both to give in their reasons of the premises, and to excuse the said Mr John our pastor at the Presbyteries hands, seing he is unwilling to preach their before he have the Presbyteries advyce.

7 September 1654.

P. 553.

Mr Woodcock being sent by the Deput Governour Timothie Wilks to the Session, desyred that everie Elder and Deacone shold go throw their severall quarters to tak up a list of the poor therin; and to meitt with the Deputie upon Saturday next at Two hours efter noone.

5 October 1654.

P. 555.

William Ramsay, [and] William Murray are appoynted, with Mr David Aldinloune, [by the] Session, to visit Wm. Purves and John Fiddes there compt the time the preaching was in the Tower of the Abbey, and in Refsalrig, and to report ane answer to the Session.

26 October 1654.

Ib.

The which day, &c. Mr John Hog, James Riddell, James Stevinson, Antonie Roswell, and William Ramsay are desyred to go to the Controller and Mr Newball, for removeing of the Traine out of the Kirk.

James Kyll and Thomas Banks are appoynted to speak with Mr Hagins [in the margin, Haigins—probably Christopher Higgins the printer, who carried on business at Leith as printer to the Commonwealth] for his removing out of the Hospital.

P. 556.

Every Elder and Deacon are appoynted to go throw their severall quarters to visit, and to try who are new incomers in their quarters, and who hes and who

Ib.

wants Testimonials, and to try concerning anie scandalous perfoncs, and to give in a nott of their names, that order may be taken with them.

- P. 556. Vpon the 13th day of November 1654, being the Lords day The preaching began agane to be in our Church.

Praises to our Lord for ever.

- P. 557. 16 November 1654.

James Riddill and Anthonie Rosewell are defyred to go to the Presbyterie to defyr a meitting of the Presbyterie to be heir in our Church for visitatione thereof befor that any seats be built in the Church.

- Ib. 24 November 1654.

The which day there was a visitation of our Church.

Sederunt—Mr Mungo Lawe Moderator, Mr Robert Dowglas, Mr John Smith, Mr George Leslie, Mr Robert Trail, Mr William Dalgleish, and Mr Robert Dalgleish.

The Presbyterie promised to return to our Seffione the double of what is done this day to be infert in this our Register.

[No such minute has been recorded.]

- P. 570. 2 May 1655.

The which day Maior Pearfon Town Maior of this Garifon cam to James Stevinsone our present Thesaurer (by order of Timothie Wilks Governor Deput) and requyred the kyes of our Church door from us saying, the Deputie would not suffer any Scots Minister to preach there till farder order.

- P. 572. 30 of May 1655.

The which day efter incalling upon God, Mr John Hog Moderator, There was a meitting of the Seffione and Neighbours.

First, It is appoynted to drawe up Two petitions: 1. ane to the Deputie Governour; the uther the Commander in Cheif to supplicat their Honors that they may give us the use of our Kirk agane.

Mr John Hogg our pastor, James Stevinsone, &c. are appoynted to go to the Governour Deput to speak with his Honor, concerning the Skipperis yll be east the pulpit, That the contraverfie betwixt the Skipperis and the Gentlemen trafeckquers may be taken away.

19 *Julie* 1655.

P. 574.

The which day it was appoynted, that ane petitione fould be drawne up and to preſent it to the Deputie Governour and remanent Officers and Commanders within the Garifon, and to give it in when they are fitting at ane Court Martiall, concerning the reſtoring of our Kirk to us agane.

James Riddill, James Stevinfoe, James Kyll, William Ramfay, and William Murray for this effect are to ſpeek with the Commanders.

2 *Aguyß* 1655.

P. 575.

James Riddill and James Kyll are deſyred to ſpeek with the Deputie Governour to ſee if his Honour would be pleaſed to cauſe the Port be open upon the Lords day betwixt ij [xi] hours in the forenoon, until 2 hours in the afternoon for outgoing and incoming of the people to Sermons in the Links.

30 *Aguyß* 1655.

P. 577.

Mr John Hogg, Mr Roſewell, Ja. Riddill, Ja. Stevinfoe, Ja. Kyll are deſyred to ſpeek with Mr Deſborow concerning our Kirk.

Mr Roſewell is deſyred to preſent the paper of Annexation of Reſtallrig to Leith Church to the Preſbyterie to be inferd and regiſtrat in the Preſbyterie booke.

13 *September* 1655.

Ib.

Mr Roſewell reported that the Preſbyterie reſuſed to inferd and regiſtrat in their booke the Ticket of Annexation of Reſtallrig to the South Church of Leith, but he thinks to gett it regiſtrat in ſome uther books.

20 *September* 1655.

P. 578.

Mr Hewgo M'Kell, Mr George Leſly, Mr Thomas Garvie, and Mr Peter Blair cam to the Seſſion this day and conſulted with the Seſſione concerning a Petition to be drawne up and to be given in to the Councill of Eſtate concerning our Kirk.

1 *November* 1655.

P. 580.

The which day it was condeſcendit that a Petition be drawne up to be ſent to the Lord Protector to ſupplikat his Heighnes for our Church and to ſeek Mr Andrew Gilmuir his advyce heirin and to retorne ane anſwer betwixt and Saturday nixt, as alſo to ſeek the Towne of Edinburgh their concurrence therewith, and in the meantyme the preaching to be in Reſtallrig for a tyme.

Mr John Hogg is deſyred to ſpeek Mr William Hay concerning the annexing of Pilrig to the South Kirk of Leith.

P. 581.

15 November 1655.

Ordaines a meitting of the Sessioin and Neighboures to be upon Saturday nixt.

Ib.

17 November 1655.

The which day there was a meitting of the Sessioin and Neighbours, and all did agree unanimously to subscrive the petition which was drawne up be Mr John Hogg our pastor that is to be sent to the Lord Protector for our Church.

Ib.

17 December 1655.

It was this day condescendit that the Petitione drawne up be Mr John Hogg our pastor sould be written over again *in mundo*, and subscrivit with all expedition, and sent away, To supplicat his Heighnesse the Lord Protector for our Church.

P. 586.

Mr John Hogg is defyred to speak with Mr Charles Lumbisdane Clerk to the Presbyterie of Edinburgh, that he infert and registrat in the Presbyterie books The Protestation which was given in be the Inhabitants of the towne of Leith against the Landward part of the paroch concerning preaching and keeping Sessioin at Restalrig, &c.

13 March 1656.

It is unanimously condescended and concluded that our Petitione sould be sent up to England to the Lord Protector concerning our Kirk, That it would please his Heighnesse to cause restore it to us again That we may convey in it for the worship of God, seeing we have no place to meitt in but in the open fields.

Also to writ to Colonell Fenwick Governor of Leith, who for the present is at Londone, that his Honour would be assitant thereunto.

P. 595.

19 June 1656.

This day the Marquise of Argyll writ ane letter from England to our Sessioin wherin (our Petition that was sent up to his Heighnes the Lord Protector for our Kirk was inclosed with a reference upon the back therof to the Honorable Counsell of Stait in Scotland superferibed by his Heighnes, wherof the tenor followeth.

[This, however, is not inserted, a blank space being left by the Clerk; but its purport appears from the following minute.]

P. 596.

26 of June 1656.

Anthonie Rosewell, James Cutler, and John Young tailor are defyred to go to the North Kirk Sessioin of Leith, to intimat unto them That the Counsell of Stait in Scotland, efter the sight of ane Reference (from his Heighnes the Lord

Protector) hath appoynted the South Congregatione of Leith to have the use of the North Kirk to preach in for a tym untill the Magazin be removed from the South paroch unto the North paroch unto the Citideal, at which tym the South Congregation are to be reftored to their owne South Kirk agane, God willing.

3 *July* 1656.

P. 597.

Mr John Hogg our pastor declared this day that there will be a vifitatione of our kirk upon Weddnesday nixt.

Mr John Hogg is defyred to go to the Governour to receive the kyes of the North Kirk, and the keyes of the seats therein, William Ramfey (& 3 others) are appoynted to go with him this day at 2 efternoon.

The Sessione of South Leith are content and consents, that if so be the North Parish can obtain licence of the Counfell of Eftait to preach in the North Kirk, the Session will be gladly content, as the Session and they can aggree.

Upon the 9 of *Julie* 1656, there was a Vifitatione of our Kirk by the Presbyterie.

10th *Julie* 1656.

P. 598.

Upon the 10th of *Julie* we began to preach in the North Kirk.

The which 10 of *Julie* 1656, it was condescended unanimouſlie be the whole Sessione who wer present, That our acceptatione of the North Kirk from the Honourable Counfell of Eftat (for a tyme) shall not be prejudicial to our Minister, to our South Paroch, or to the Landwart part of the paroch.

17 *Julie* 1656.

P. 599.

It was ordained this day, that every familie in Restalrig, Craigend, and in the rest of the Landwart part of the paroch have a writtin tickit in parchment subſcrivit be the Minister, which tickit they muſt ſhew to the guard at Edinburgh port when they com in to fermon upon the Lords day.

[A propoſal to have a Second Minister—the Four Corporations of Trafficquers, Skippers, Maltmen, and Traids, by ſome of their number, on the 24 *July* expreſſed their willingness, “that Maſter John Hogg our preſent Minister ſhould have ane helper, and a colegue in the miniſterie of the Goſpell;” and that ſome young men be deſired to preach, as candidates.

On the 20th of September, James Stevenſon late Treafurer delivered to his ſucceſſor in office the Silver work which appertained to the Session (conſiſting of two ſilver baſins, with the fyve cups, and ſilver laver, &c.)

P. 606.

On the 2d October Mr George Kintor, elected Second Minister.

P. 625.

2 April 1657.

Mr John Hogg, Robert Sandilands, James Riddell & Anthonie Rosewell are defyrred to go presentlie efter the Sessione, to speek with the Governour for our Kirk.

[Mr George Kintor his Edict—read from the pulpit—efter the forenoones sermon, by Mr John Hogg, 17 May 1657, and ordered to be admitted on Friday come 8 days, for the 11 of June. Three persons named, are appoynted to speak their severall incorporations for a denner to the brethren of the Presbyterie at the said admiffion.]

P. 632.

19 June 1657.

The which day, being Fryday, Mr George Kintor was admitted to be Minister and fellow helper at the South Kirk of Leith, by the Reverend Brethren of the Presbyterie of Edinburgh.—The brethren who were present at the said Admiffion, were Mr Hew M'Kell, who preached, Mr David Dickfone, Mr Robert Douglas, Mr John Smyth, Mr James Hamiltoun, Mr Mungo Law, Mr Robert Lourie, Mr William Dalgleife, Mr John Knox, Mr James Nairne, Mr Charles Lumbifdan, Mr Alexander Livingstone, Mr John Charteris, Mr Robert Hunter, Mr James Reid, Mr Peter Blair, and Mr David Reddie.

Ib.

Our South Kirk of Leith was restored to us agane upon the 30 of June 1657.

III.

NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF A BEAUTIFUL ENAMELLED GOLD RING, BELIEVED TO HAVE BELONGED TO KING JAMES V., FOUND IN THE RUINS OF TANTALLAN CASTLE. BY CAPTAIN HENRY JAMES, R.E.

This ring was found at Tantallan Castle last summer by one of the surveyors employed upon the Ordnance Survey of the kingdom, from whom I purchased it, and now present it to the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

The ring is of a small size, and has in the centre two conjoined elliptical shields or facets, with diverging rays or a glory round them. On the right shield is engraved the effigy of a female figure; and on the left, that of a male figure, with a sword (?) in his right hand. On the strap on each side of the shields there are "Forget-me-not" flowers, very elegantly engraved, which were enamelled with transparent colours; a portion of the enamel still adheres on one side. At the end of each "Forget-me-not," the initials J. R. are engraved in Old English character.

